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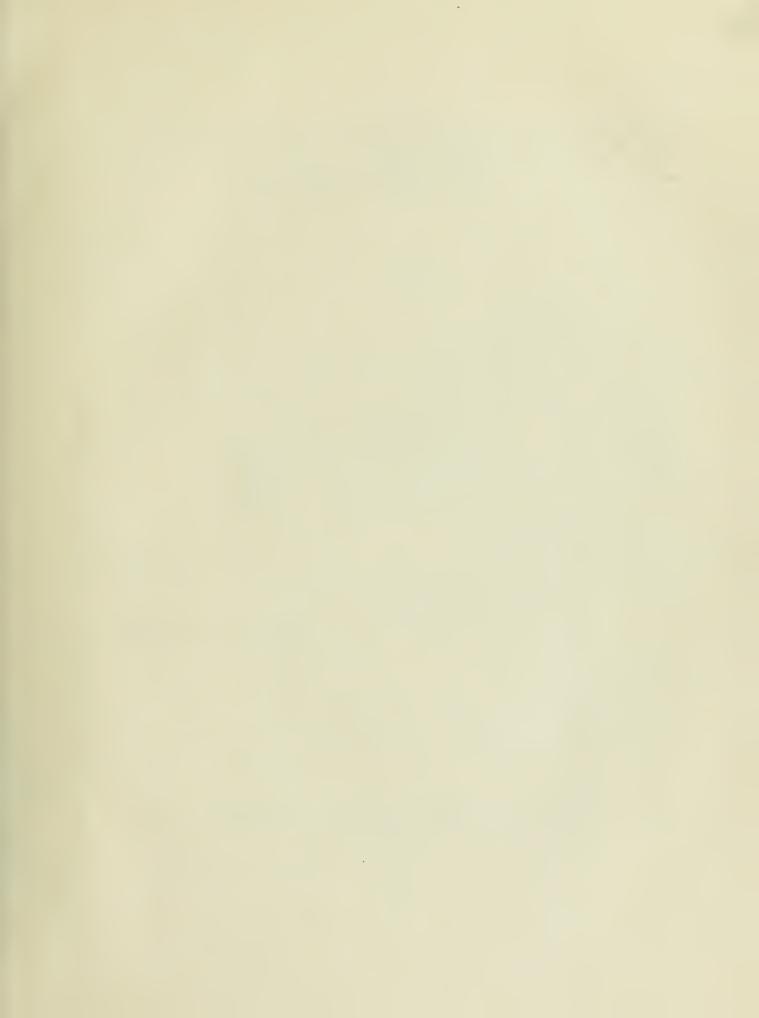
A STUDY OF THE EFFECTS
OF VARYING RATES OF LOADING
ON THE CONSOLIDATION OF SOIL

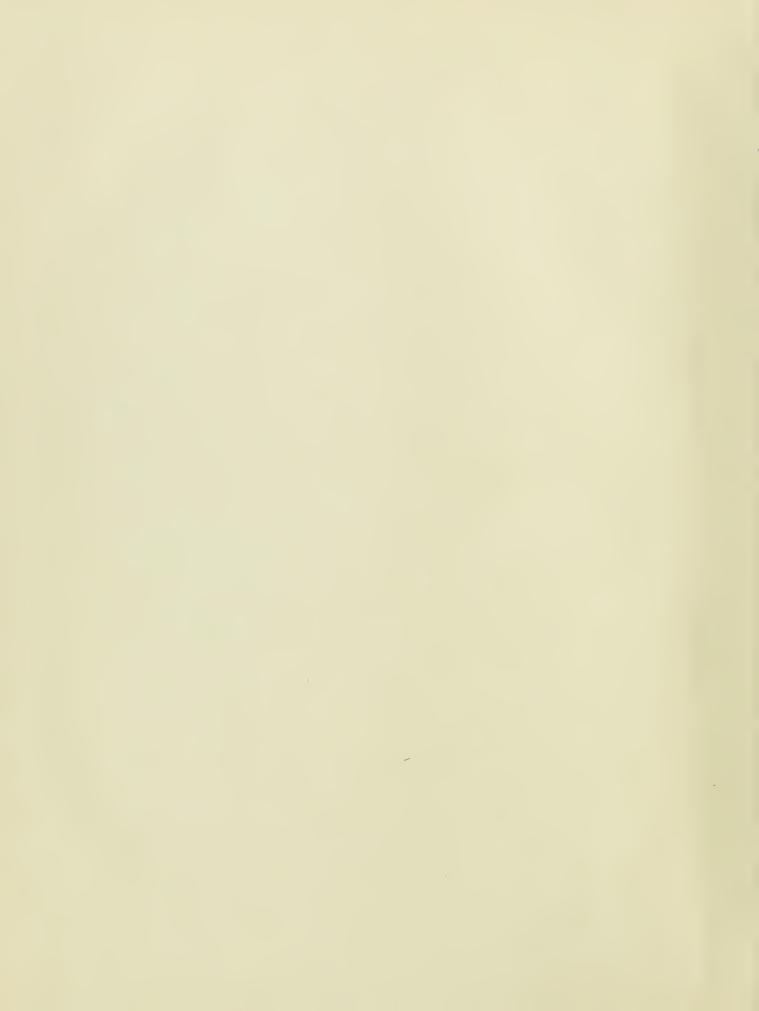
ROBERT K. WHITE

OUDLEY KNOX LIBRARY NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL MONTEREY CA 93-43-5101









## A STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF VARYING RATES OF LOADING ON THE CONSOLIDATION OF SOIL

bу

Robert K. White

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty
of the Department of Civil Engineering
in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
MASTER OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

Adviser		

Approved:

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Troy, New York
June, 1959

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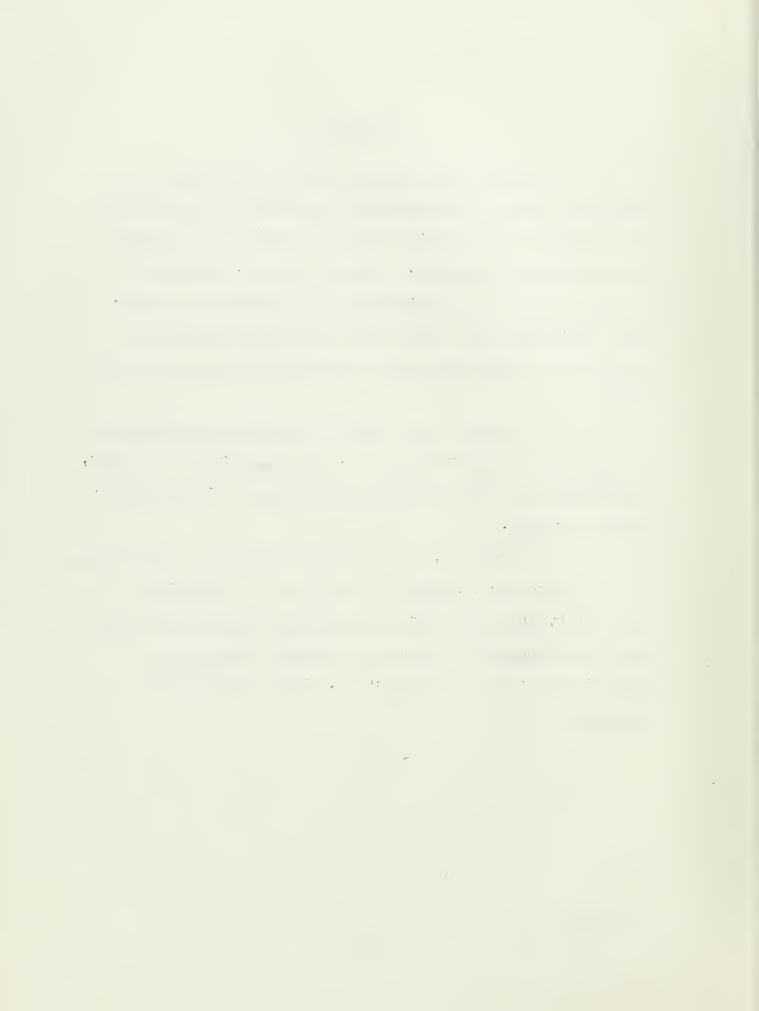
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#### FOREWORD

From his first introduction to the subject of soil mechanics, one is impressed most, perhaps, by the profusion of unknown or questionable factors involved in accurately predicting soil behavior. For this reason, attempts at formulization of these unknowns are of primary interest. This impression, more than any other factor, served as a stimulus for undertaking the investigation reported in this thesis.

The author would like to express his appreciation to Assistant Professor Robert L. Schiffman who, as adviser, aided greatly in the setting up and conduct of the experimental program.

In addition, the author is indebted to the Division of Soil Mechanics, headed by Professor E. J. Kilcawley, for their very able and courteous assistance both by providing hints and suggestions and also by making available the facilities of the entire section. This assistance was invaluable.



#### ABSTRACT

In order to predict more accurately the settlement of structures, many approaches to the theory of consolidation have been made. The most famous of these is the Terzaghi theory. The limitations of this theory as associated with construction loading have been recognized by Schiffman in his approach to a mathematical solution. Marron initiated investigations into the validity of Schiffman's work, and it is the purpose of this investigation to further these studies.

Testing was carried out on two types of apparatus. The first one, a standard, two-position static loading device, was utilized during three series of tests including a usual incremental test, a large incremental test, and a small incremental test.

The second apparatus consisted of a Conbel loading device which was operated by air pressure regulated through a valve which in turn was connected to an opening mechanism. This opening mechanism consisted of a geared-down electric motor whose output rate could be varied by a belt-and-pulley arrangement to the valve stem. Thirteen test runs at varying rates were conducted with this device.

Permeability readings were conducted throughout testing by use of a constant head permeameter developed by Marron.



The material used throughout testing was a pure kaolinite clay, the inclusion of which it was hoped would eliminate many of the inconsistencies encountered in a natural soil. Thus, results would be that much more easily interpreted.

The results of this experimentation show that there is a definite effect upon total strain and void ratio change by imposition of different loading conditions. It can definitely be seen that large increments and more rapid loading rates cause larger deformation.

For the static tests it was seen that larger permeabilities were experienced at the same porosity when large increments were applied than when small increments were applied.

During the time dependent loading tests, the results failed to show any definite relationship between permeability and porosity, though the fact that there was a spread of values leads to speculation that further, more intensive study along this line would be warranted.

It is concluded that as far as the scope of this study has investigated, Schiffman's approach to the consolidation of soil under conditions of time-dependent loading and varying permeability is valid.

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#### PART I.

#### INTRODUCTION

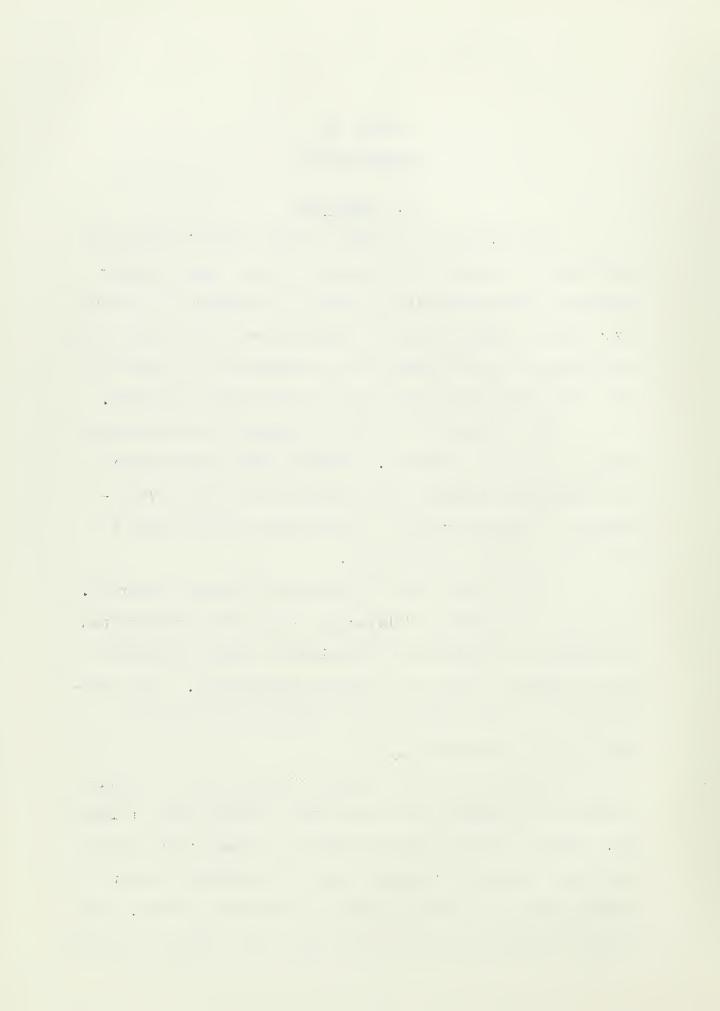
## A. Objective

The purpose of a study of soil mechanics is to be better able to predict the behavior of soil under varying conditions encountered in the field. One aspect of soil behavior quite important in all construction is the process of consolidation and just how much settlement can be expected after the construction takes place and a load is applied.

The studies by Dr. Karl Terzaghi in this field are almost universally followed. However, many investigators have recognized certain shortcomings therein and have attempted to extend Terzaghi's theory with modifications to take care of these shortcomings.

Very recent work by Assistant Professor Robert L. Schiffman of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has presented a mathematical solution to consolidation under conditions of time-dependent loading and varying permeability. It is considered that such conditions more accurately approximate actual field situations.

It is the avowed purpose of this study to conduct a series of consolidation tests under various rates of loading. Perhaps, not as a direct result of these tests alone but after a period of extended study, Schiffman's and/or similar approaches can be completely validated. Thus, the practice of soil mechanics will become more nearly a science.



## B. <u>Historical Review</u>

Dr. Karl Terzaghi, in one of his works (9) states that in 1856 Tyndall discussed "partially consolidated mud" in his "Fragments of Science". For the next few decades work done in the direction of consolidation was mostly as connected with agriculture. However, to illustrate that the problems of consolidation were still being studied by the pioneers in the field, Collingwood (1) in 1891, at a lecture presented at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, stated that subsurface exploration should be carried out to such a depth as to preclude the possibility of the presence of a compressible layer.

However, all of these statements and all the empirical formulae previously developed were shoved into obscurity when in 1925 Dr. Terzaghi (8) published his "Theory of Consolidation". For the first time engineers had at their disposal a quantitative method of predicting consolidation under loading. Since 1925 there have been innumerable treatises either extending, criticising, or upholding Dr. Terzaghi's work (2, 3, 5, 6, 10), but to this day his theory is still the basis of all work in the field.

The most questionable of Dr. Terzaghi's original assumptions, however, is that of instantaneously applied loading, and although graphical approximations to time rates of loading and total settlement have been developed, there has been no rigorous mathematical solution to the problem.

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Schiffman (5) has attempted this mathematical approach recently, and Marron (4) initiated laboratory work in an attempt to justify Schiffman's approach. In this work, the author intends to further these studies of Marron.



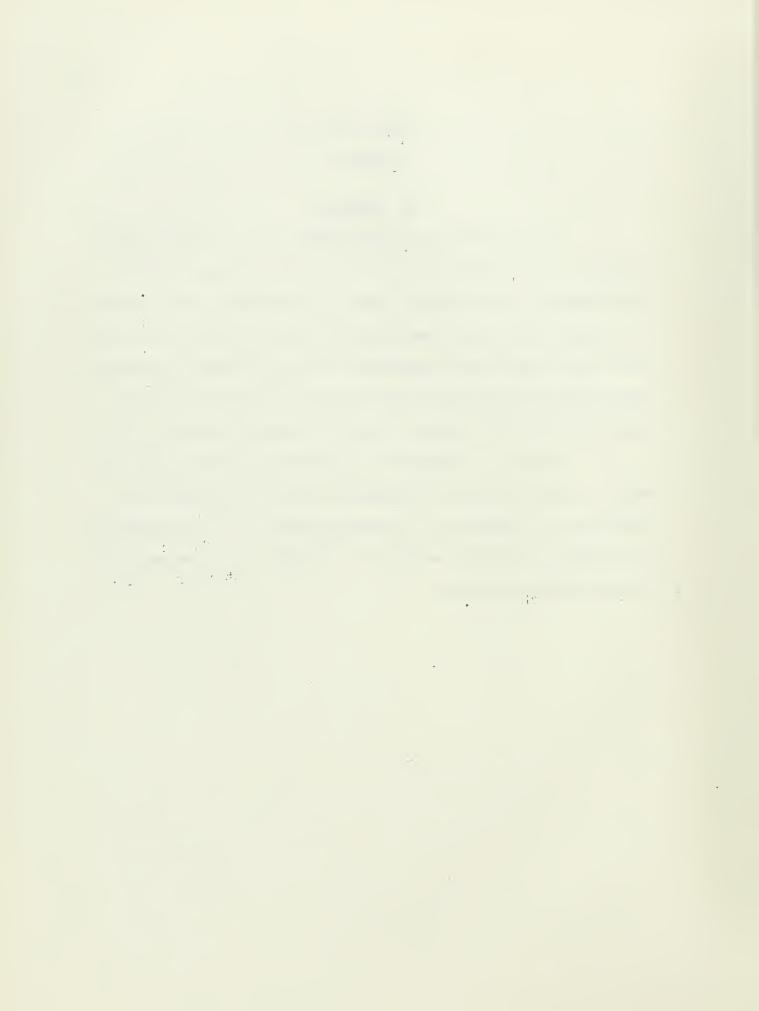
#### PART II.

#### THEORY

## A. General

It is generally acknowledged that the most valid theory of consolidation of soils is that proposed by Dr. Karl Terzaghi (8) in 1925. There is actually little point in bringing forth any theory introduced prior to this time. Since this important contribution of Dr. Terzaghi, however, there have been certain modifications and extensions proposed (5, 7) and it might be well to mention them.

Further, although it is understood that many volumes of theory could be included as being pertinent, the author has no intention of restating much of the fundamental work which is readily available in almost any standard textbook on soil mechanics.



## B. Theory of Terzaghi

The assumptions stated by Dr. Terzaghi in the presentation of his theory are as follows:

- 1. Homogeneous soil
- Voids of the soil are completely filled with water
- 3. Water and solid constituents of soil are completely incompressible
- 4. Darcy's law is strictly valid
- 5. The coefficient of permeability K is a constant
- 6. The time lag of consolidation is due entirely to the low soil permeability
- 7. The clay is laterally confined
- 8. Both the total and effective normal stresses are the same for every stage of the process of consolidation
- 9. An increase in the effective pressure from an initial value  $\widetilde{F}_c$  to a final value  $\widetilde{F}$  reduces the void ratio of the clay from an initial value  $\mathcal{C}_c$  to a final value  $\mathcal{C}$ . The ratio

 $Q_{VC} = \frac{e_o - e}{\overline{\rho} - \overline{\rho}_o}$  is assumed a constant for the range of pressure  $\overline{\rho}_o$  to  $\overline{\rho}$  .  $Q_{VC}$  is called the coefficient of compressibility.

Using these assumptions and considering a layer

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of clay buried beneath a bed of highly permeable sand with a uniformly distributed surcharge instantly applied to the surface of the sand (Figure 1), Dr. Terzaghi developed the following differential equation:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{\lambda_w} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}$$

in which,

U = excess pore pressure

t= time

K = the coefficient of permeability

 $\gamma_{\omega}$  = the unit weight of the water

 $m_{\nu c} = \frac{a_{\nu c}}{1 + e_0} =$  the coefficient of volume decrease

Z = vertical distance

For simplification, the relation

where  $C_{
m VC}$  becomes the coefficient of consolidation.

It is interesting to note that the process of consolidation as brought forth by Dr. Terzaghi has been shown to have mathematical analogues with the following physical processes: heat transfer, diffusion of substances dissolved in liquids, diffusion of gases, propogation of electric currents in cables, and movement of solid bodies through a stationary viscous liquid. (9)

For the boundary conditions stated and by use of Fourier's series, Dr. Terzaghi's differential equation leads to the following equation:  $\frac{z}{\sqrt{2(N+1)}} = \frac{z}{\sqrt{2(N+1)}} =$ 

to the following equation:
$$U = \frac{4}{\pi} p_i \underbrace{\sum_{N=0}^{N=0} \frac{1}{Z_{N+1}}}_{N=0} S_{Im} \left[ \frac{Z(N+1)77Z}{ZH} \right] e^{-(ZN+1)^2 T^2 Z^{-1} T^2}$$
(1)

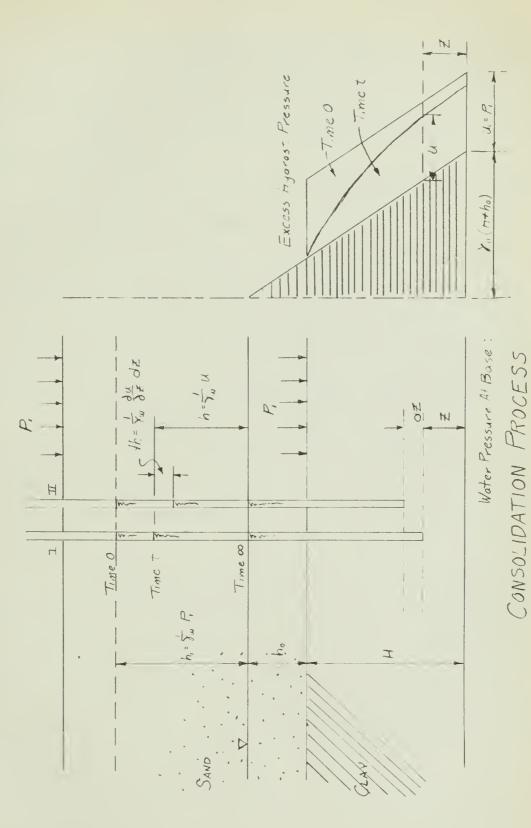


Figure 1



The relationship

$$T_{V} = \frac{C_{V}}{H^{2}} + \frac{K}{8 \omega m_{V}} \times \frac{t}{H^{2}}$$

represents an independent variable called the "time factor".

However, the ultimate purpose of the theory  ${\bf i}$ s to predict settlement.

The decrease  $d\rho$  of the thickness of a horizontal layer of original thickness  $d\mathcal{Z}$  is:

Therefore settlement P at time t is:

$$P = \int_0^{\mu} \Delta n dz = m_v(p, H - \int_0^{\mu} u dz) \qquad (2)$$

Substituting this value in equation (1) and integrating re-

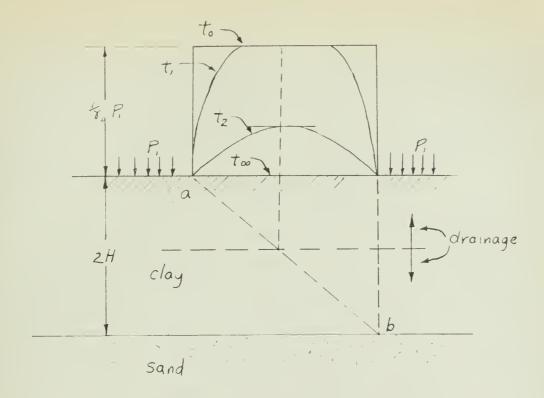
sults in: 
$$P = M_{\nu} \rho_{i} + \left[1 - \frac{8}{\pi^{2}} z \sum_{\nu=0}^{N=\infty} (-2N+1)^{2} \pi^{2} \right]$$
 (3)

it can be seen that the factor outside the brackets represents the ultimate settlement, for as time t approaches infinity, the right-hand side of the relationship in brackets approaches zero.

However, it is not necessary in most cases to go through all these computations, since Terzaghi and Frohlich (9) plotted a family of curves (Figure 2) to approximate various loading conditions. Thus the process of predicting a reasonable value of settlement at a particular time is greatly simplified. First, the ultimate settlement is computed using the relationship:

Next, the time factor  $\overline{I_{V}}$  is calculated, and using this in

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Consolidation of clay layer afer sudden application of uniformly distributed surcharge. Curves show locus of water level in vertical piezometric tubes whose lower ends are located on ab.



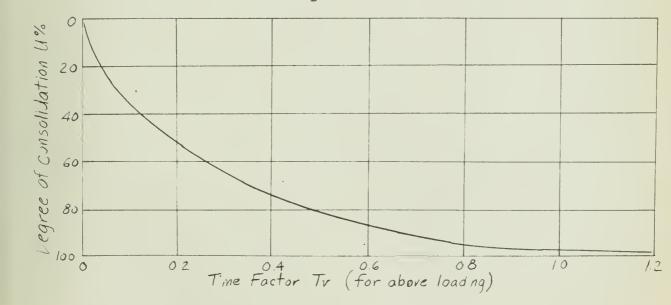


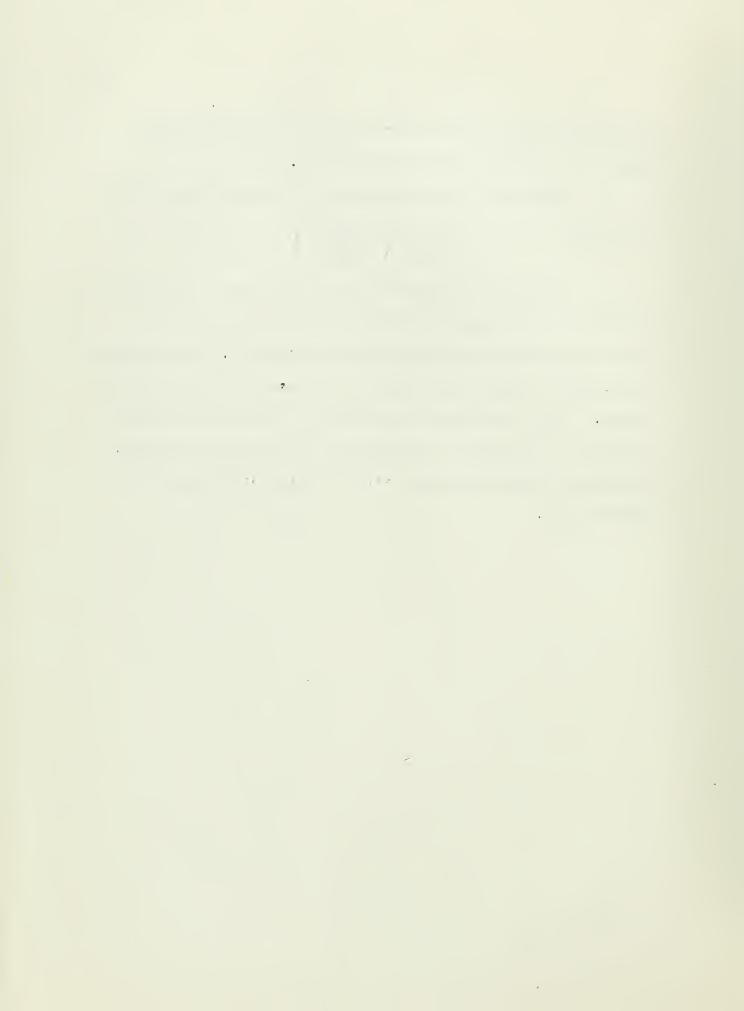
Figure 3

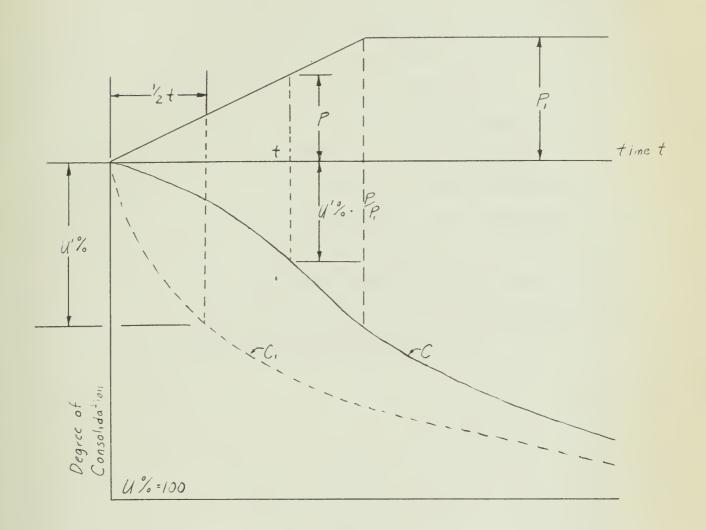


the chart of time factor versus degree of consolidation (Figure 3) a value of U% is arrived at.

Therefore, the settlement at the particular time t is merely  $P = P_1 \left( \frac{u^{-4/6}}{100} \right)$ 

However, one important fact has been overlooked thus far. Very seldom in the field is a load instantaneously applied and not subsequently increased. Recognizing this fact, Terzaghi and Frohlich (9) developed a graphical method. This is pictured in Figure 4. The phenomenon of linear load increase is exemplified, but other conditions of gradual load application are set forth in Terzaghi and Frohlich (9).





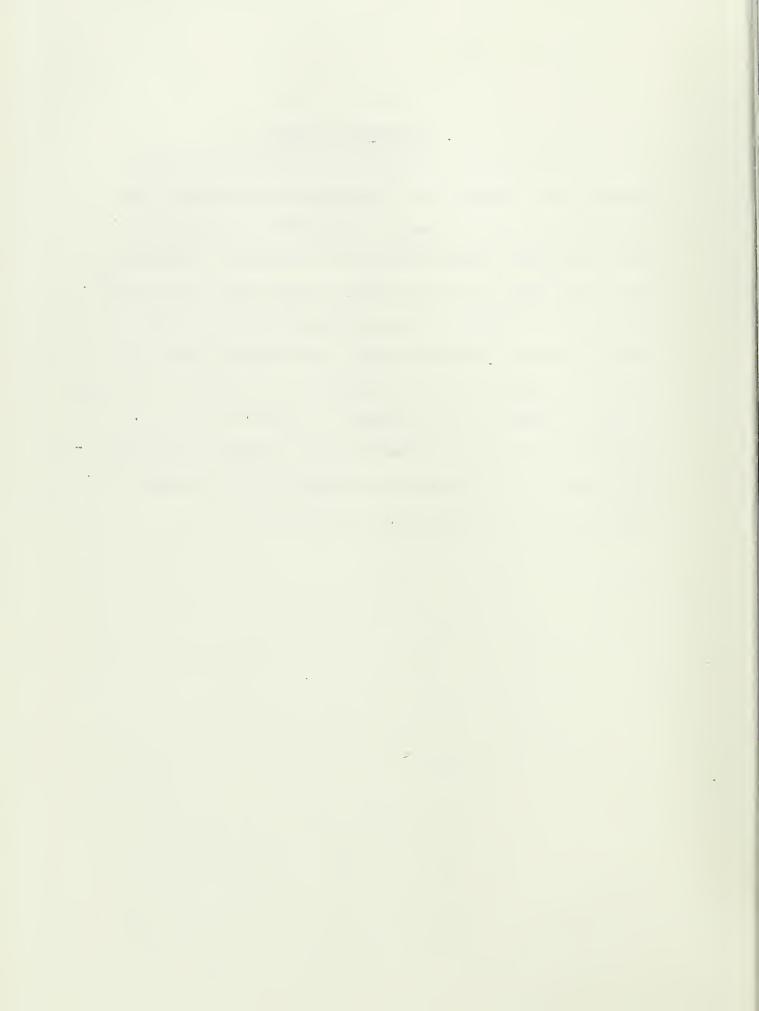
Graphic method of determing time factor under gradually applied consolidation load.

Figure 4



# C. Research by Taylor

D. W. Taylor published in 1942 (7) the results of several years' study of the consolidation of clays. The outcome of the studies was an indication that settlement predictions based upon the data of conventional consolidation tests are likely to be seriously in error unless the increments of load for the test and the actual structure are essentially alike. In other words, the research indicated that the consolidation relationship is not independent of the loading increment as Dr. Terzaghi's theory indicates. In conclusion, Taylor (7) stated that his results were conclusive enough to show that a need existed for more study into the factors which vary during consolidation.



# D. Extension to Theory by Schiffman

Schiffman presents in (5) a mathematical approach to the condition of time-dependent loading and varying permeability of soil. His basic assumptions are:

- Soil mass is completely saturated, the fluid incompressible, and the soil is of incompressible particles of small size
- 2. Darcy's law is instantaneously valid
- 3. The change in volume is small as compared to the original volume and is linear

Next he develops a differential equation of the general theory of consolidation with varying permeability and time-dependent loading and presents it in three forms as follows:

However, the condition most closely approximated by the standard consolidation test is so-called one-dimensional consolidation. Under one-dimensional consolidation the following working conditions are evident:

- (1) doubly drained clay layer
- (2) clay layer of finite thickness

- (3) clay layer infinite in width and breadth
- (4) loading on the surface is infinite in extent
- (5) the initial coefficient of permeability is uniform throughout clay layer
- (6) initially imposed excess pore pressure is uniform throughout clay layer

Using these limiting conditions, the differential

 $\mathcal{R}$ = rate of change of imposed excess pore pressure  $C_o$ = coefficient of consolidation at beginning of consolidation



## PART III.

## MATERIALS AND APPARATUS

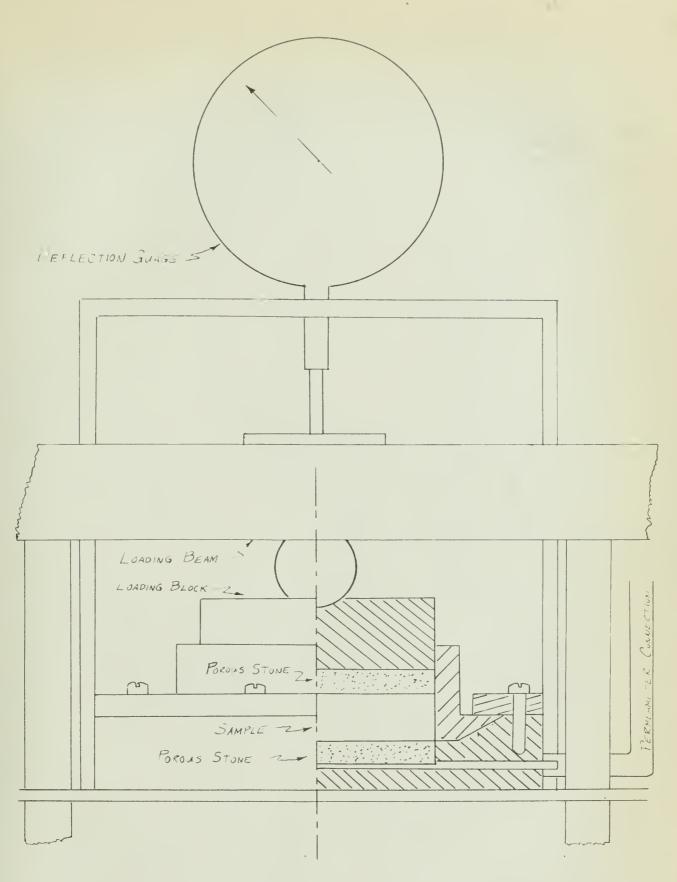
The soil samples used during this investigation were prepared from pure kaolin clay received from Ward's Natural Science Corporation, Rochester, New York. The sample designation was "Kaolinite--Dry Branch Ga. Dana #492". An attempt to magnify the permeability readings by using samples composed of 50% kaolin and 50% of a sifted silt was abandoned when it was discovered that the readings were virtually unchanged.

Throughout the testing program a standard  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " fixed ring consolidometer as shown in Figure 5 was used. The sample was separated from the porous stones by filter paper sheets which tended to prevent clogging the pores of the stones.

Loading during the static tests was applied by use of a Soil-Test Model C-280 beam loading device which afforded two positions for running duplicate tests.

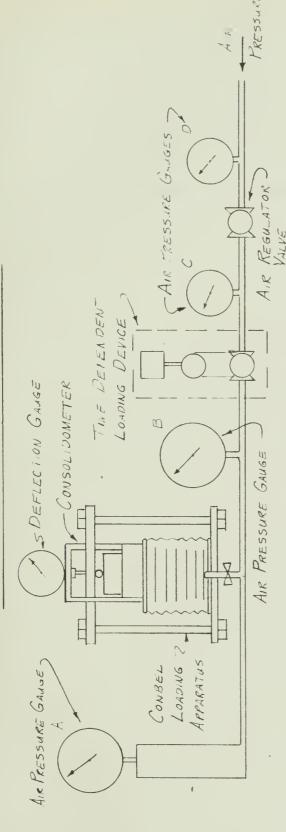
Loading during the continuous loading test was applied by use of a Conbel Model 350 as shown in Figure 6. This apparatus was adapted to continuous loading by placing a Conoflow regulator valve in the line supplying air pressure to the pressure accumulator of the Conbel equipment. This valve was gradually opened by means of a belt and pulley arrangement connected to a gear train and driven by a

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STANDARD FIXED RING CONSOLIDOMETER (FULL SCALE)
Figure 5

# CONTINUOUS LOADING DEVICE



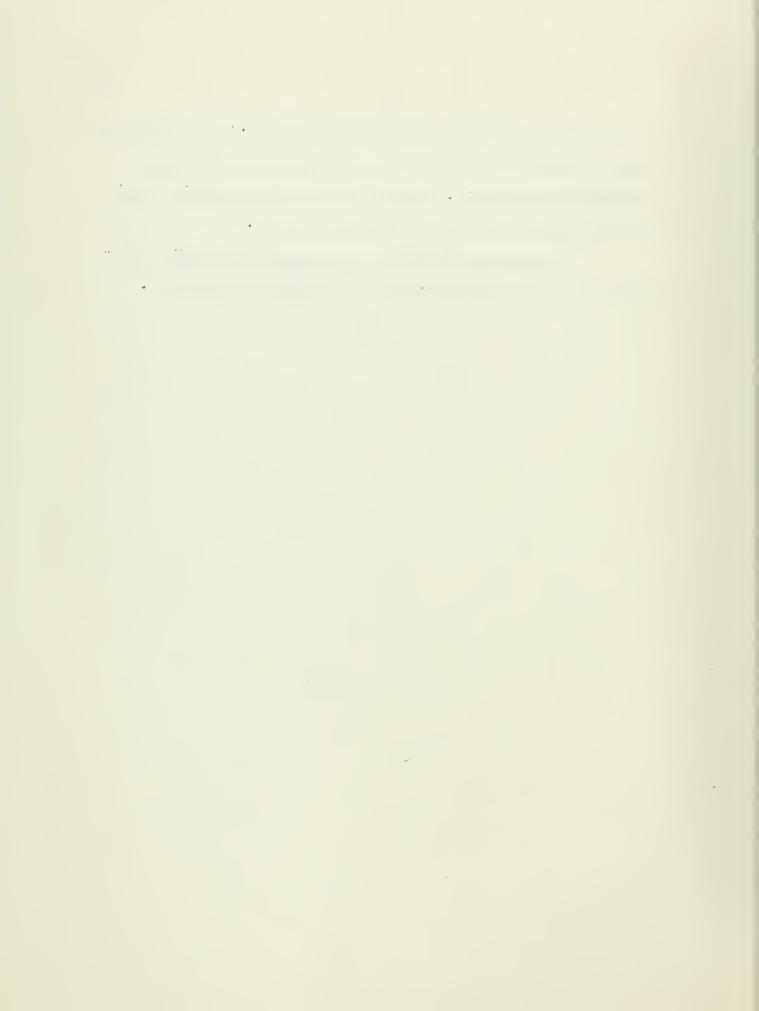
# UPERATING PROCEDURE

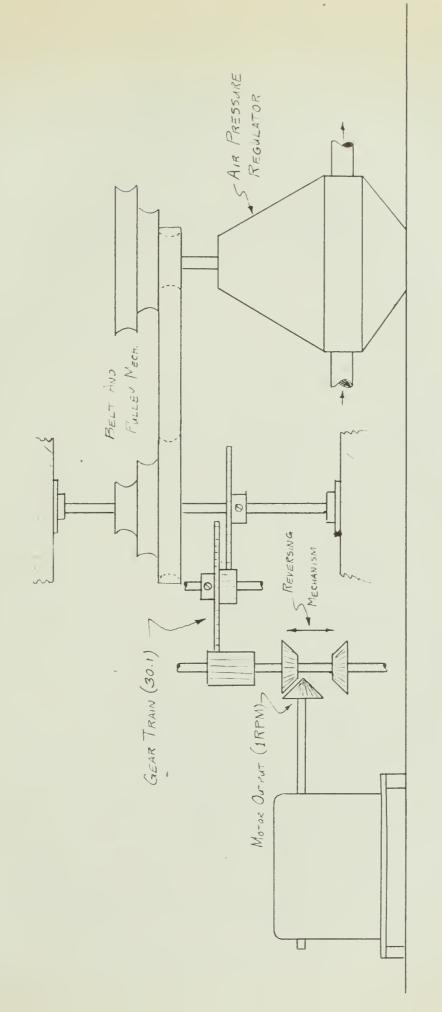
- 1. Close Air Regulator Valves
- 2. Turn On Air Pressure.
- Joen Air Regulator Value To Set Marinum Air Pressure Desired on Gauss C
- Set Time-Dependent Loading Device So That Sauge B Reads Zero.
- 3ctween Loading Head And Consolidometer, Set Deflection Sauge To Zero. Insert Consolidometer in Concel Apparatus, Take Up Lost Motion
  - Start Time-Dependent Loading Device, At Times t Read Air Pressure on Sauge A While Checking Against Gauge B, And Read Deflection Gauge. io)



Holtzer-Cabot electric motor (9 watt--75 oz.-in. torque) as shown in Figure 7, which in turn was geared down to one revolution-per-minute. Various rates-of-opening the valve were obtained by varying the pulley ratios.

Permeability readings throughout all tests utilized a constant head permeameter as shown in Figure 8.



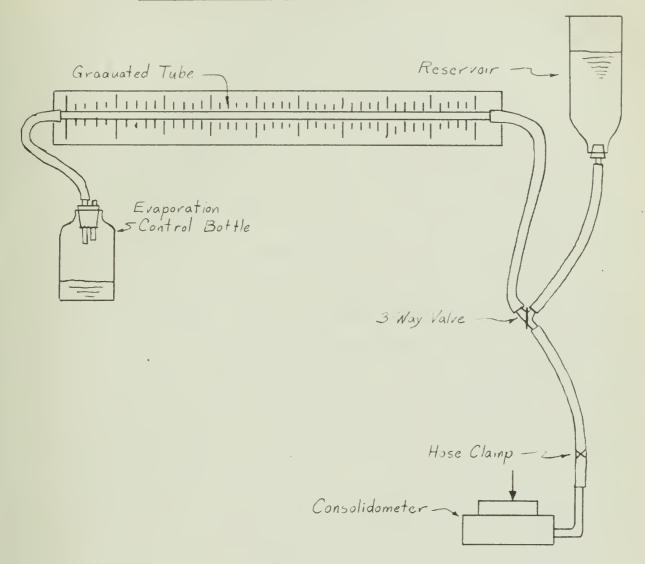


TIME-DEPENDENT LOYDING DEVICE (Schemate)

Figure 7



# CONSTANT HEAD PERMEAMETER



# OPERATING PROCEDURE

- 1. Attach Hose To Consolidometer With Hose Clamp Attachea And Wth 3-Way Value Cosed To Graduated Tube, Making Sure That No Air Bubbles Are Trapped In Consolidometer.
- 2. Open 3-Was Valve To Graduated Tube And Allow Water To Flow Into Evaporation Sontrol Sottle Until All Air Bubbles Arc Purged From System.

3 Close Three Way Valve To Keseri i. , Open Hose Clamp, And Sct Zero Reading On Graduated Tuoe.



## PART IV.

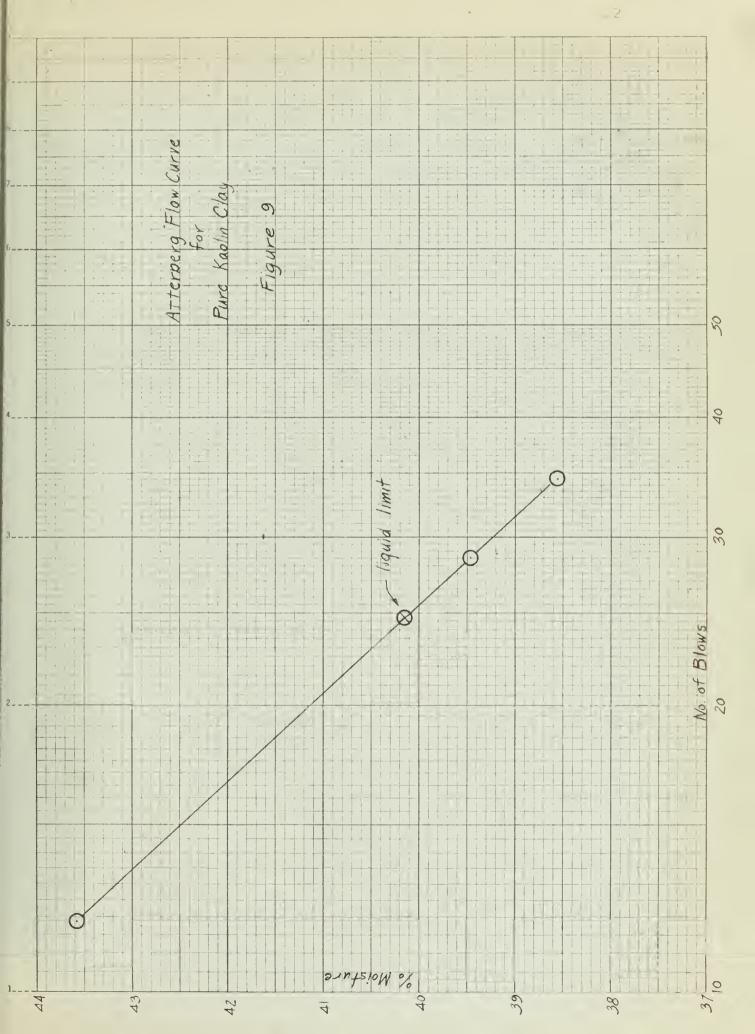
# METHOD OF PROCEDURE

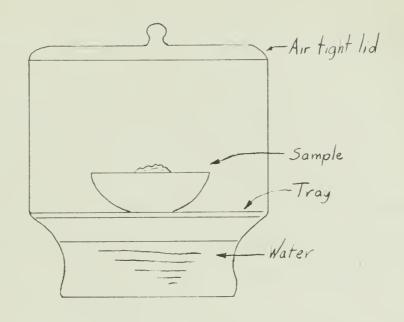
# A. Preparation of Sample

Preparation of samples was at the liquid limit which was computed according to ASTM Standards. The flow curve from this determination is shown in Figure 9. This agreed favorably with the value determined by Marron (4), so only one value was computed. Mixing was accomplished by adding distilled water to 150 grams of dry kaolin and blending with a standard spatula. Enough water was added to bring the moisture content to approximately 3% above the liquid limit (44%). After blending was complete, the sample, in a porcelain evaporating dish, was placed in dessicator which had been converted to a humidifier by removing the dessicant and placing water in the bottom. This aging period lasted twelve hours and was meant to permit a more thorough saturation of the sample, thus more closely approximating a homobeneous material. The humidifier is shown in Figure 10.

The sample was placed in the consolidometer as set forth by Marron (4), but it was especially attempted to equalize for each sample preparation the periods utilized in removing entrapped air. Again, it was thought that a closer approach to homogeneity of all samples throughout the testing would be gained by standardization of the preparation procedure.

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Humidifier

Figure 10

Test # .	Loading Rate TSF	Final Load (TSF)
/	215	, 5.45
2	207	9.50
3	1.89	, 3.20
4	2.00	13.27
5	1.78	15.50
6	78	13 28
7	2.15	15.80
8	1.20	14.80
19	1.32	13.25
10	1.10	.15.48
//	2.50	.2.81
12	2.75	13.80
13	221	11.60

Continuos Loading Data

Taple I -



# B. Static Loading Test

Three series of static loading tests were run.

The first, the so-called "usual test", was run as a pilot study to establish procedures and to become acquainted with the equipment. Increments of loading were as follows (Tons per Square Foot): 0-1/4, 1/4-1/2, 1/2-1, 1-2, 2-4, 4-8.

The second test was labeled the small increment test and consisted of loadings as follows: 0-1/4, 1/4-1/2, 1/2-1, 1-1 1/2, 1 1/2-2, 2-2 1/2, 2 1/2-3, 3-3 1/2, 3 1/2-4, 4 1/2, 4 1/2-5, 5-6, 6-7, 7-8.

The third test was labeled the large increment test and consisted of loadings as follows: 9-1/2, 1/2-1, 1-2, 2-4, 4-8.

A sample data sheet is contained in Appendix I.

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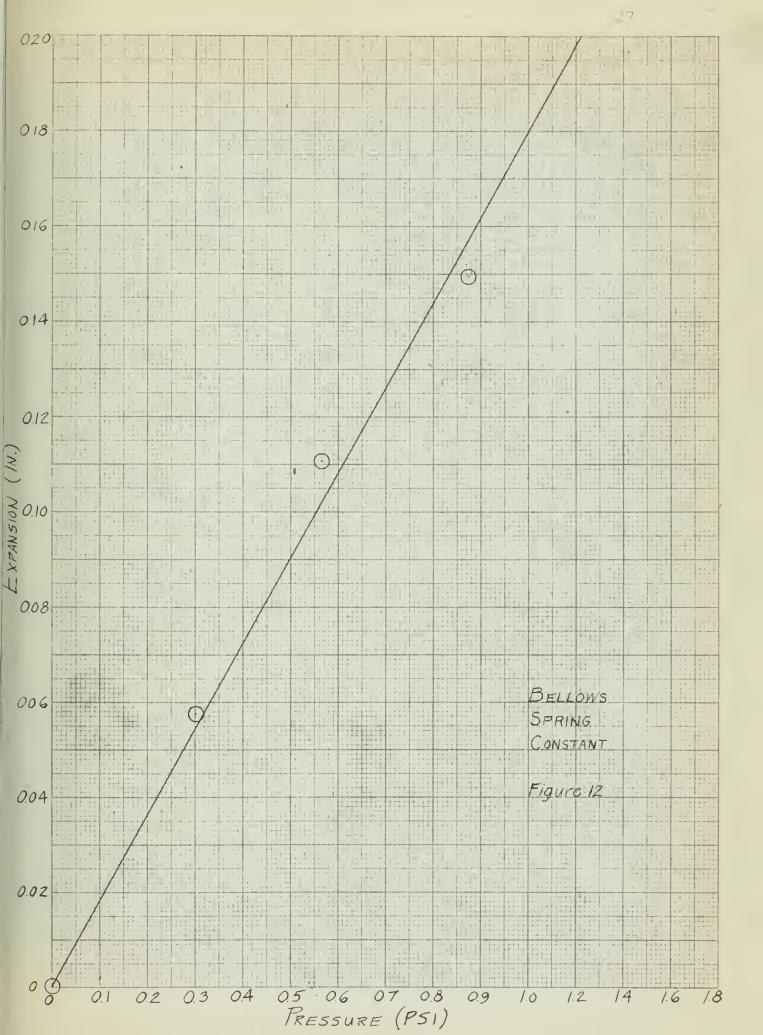
# C. Time-Dependent Loading Test

A total of thirteen continuous loading tests were run. However, at the beginning of testing it was noted that the bellows had a slight permanent tilt to it. Upon application of load it became more canted until it no longer imposed an axial load upon the specimen. Therefore, a new bellows was procured. As a result, calibration became necessary. Calibration was simplified considerably from that mentioned by Marron (4) by use of a standard materials testing machine. Procedure was as follows: The bellows was placed in the machine so to prevent vertical expansion upon applying air pressure to the bellows. Air pressure was then gradually increased up to the maximum available in the local air system, and a plot was made of this air pressure versus the pressure exerted by the testing machine, read directly off the machine dial in pounds. This calibration agreed precisely with that of the former bellows. The calibration curve is shown in Figure 11. The spring constant was determined by attaching a spring scale to the bellows, exerting a vertical load while plotting the vertical expansion of the bellows versus the load in pounds read from the spring scale. This curve is shown in Figure 12.

The procedure for operating this equipment is set forth in Figure 6, and is supplemented by information in the Materials and Apparatus section of this paper.

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The rates of loading, and final loads imposed are set forth in Table 1. Sample data sheets are included in Appendix II.



## D. Permeability Measurements

Permeability readings were taken throughout the testing runs as far as practicable. A constant head permeameter as depicted in Figure 8 was used. The procedure for utilizing this permeameter is also included on Figure 8.

Since considerable head was utilized in this permeameter there was necessarily a delay before permeability readings could be taken. As set forth in Marron (4) sample uplift occurs. It will also be noted that readings were taken during the process of consolidation even though it was realized that values of K (coefficient of permeability) computed from these readings would be false. It was thought, however, that some relationship between the rate of loading and the variations of these computed values might become evident.



### PART V.

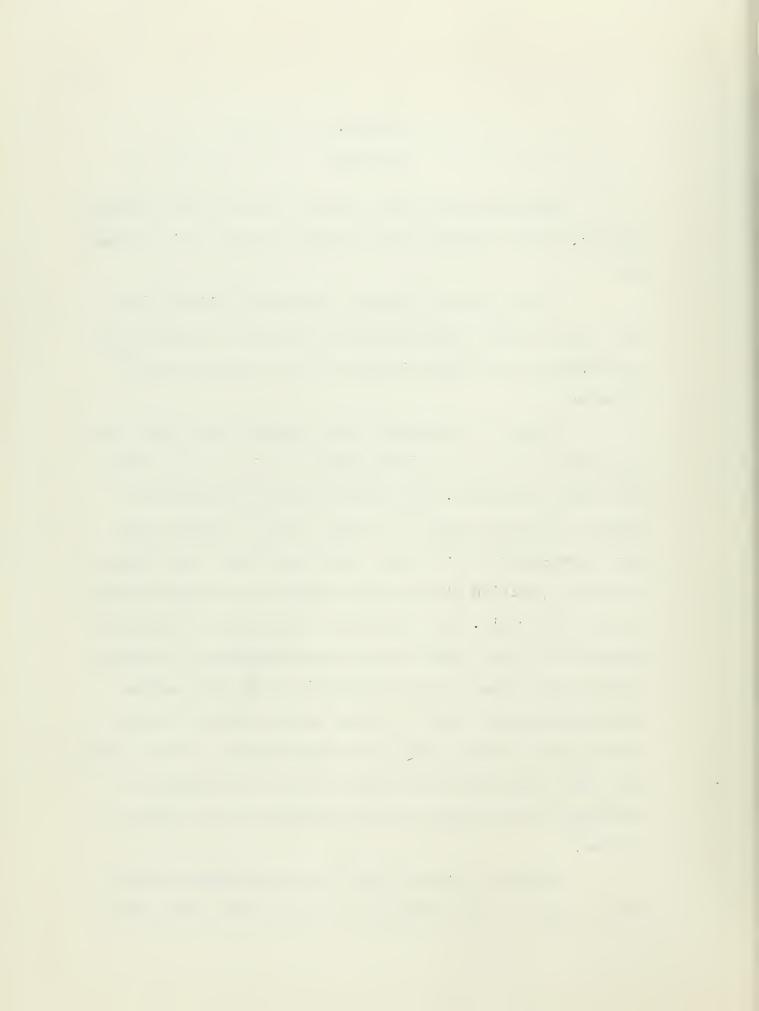
#### RESULTS

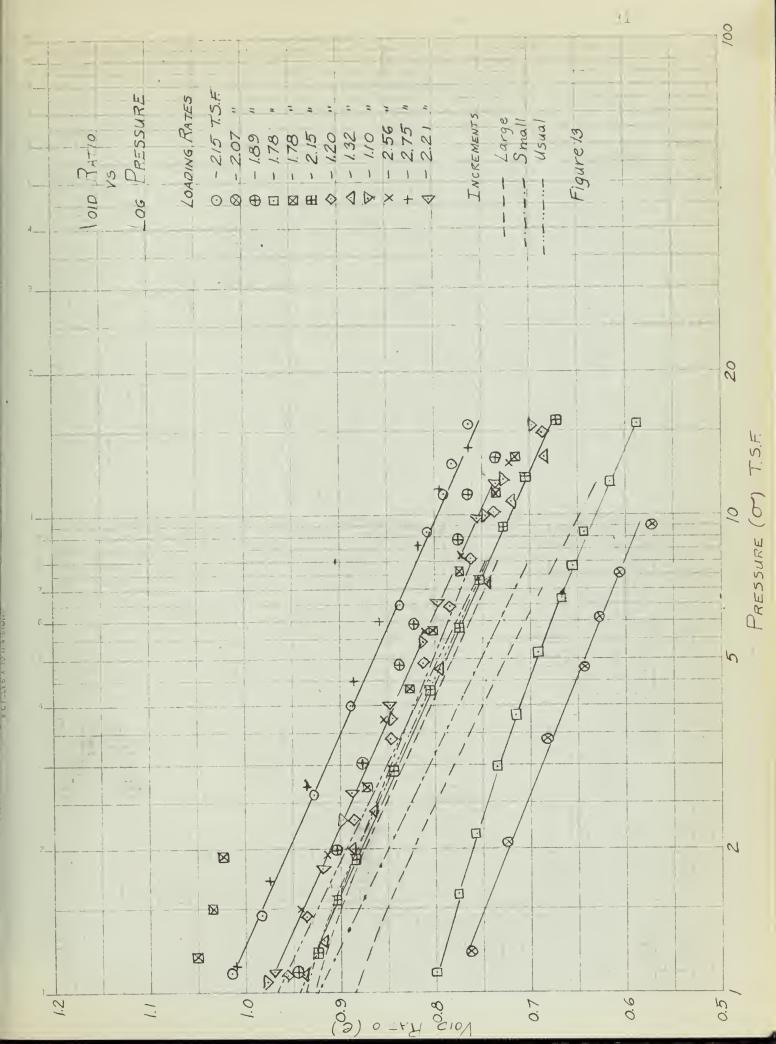
Data from the three series of static tests and the twelve runs are presented graphically in Figures 13 through 20.

Consolidation readings were made directly, void ratio and porosity being computed from them. Permeability measurements were taken with the aid of a constant head manometer.

Figure 13 represents the standard "void ratio vs. logarighm of pressure" relationship. It can be seen that, with slight exception, the slopes of all the relatively straight lines are equal. In fact, for the fifteen test runs represented on this plot, the only factor that seems to govern the position of one curve relative to another is the initial void ratio. The values for void ratio at the commencement of these tests varied from approximately 1.000 to 1.400 and the values at the beginning of the plot varied from approximately 0.775 to 1.02. At the end of the plot the void ratio values varied from approximately .525 to .750, which fact indicates that little, if any, convergence or divergence of the curves occurs regardless of the rate of loading.

Figures 14 and 15 show the relationship of void ratio to time for the different loading rates. For static









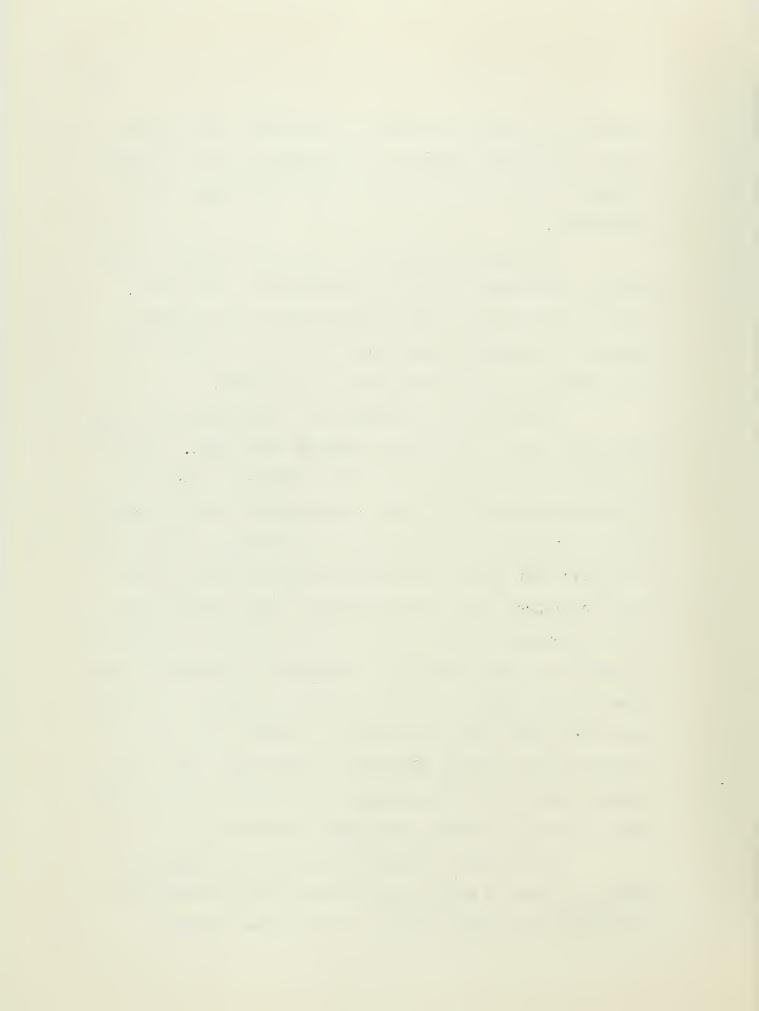


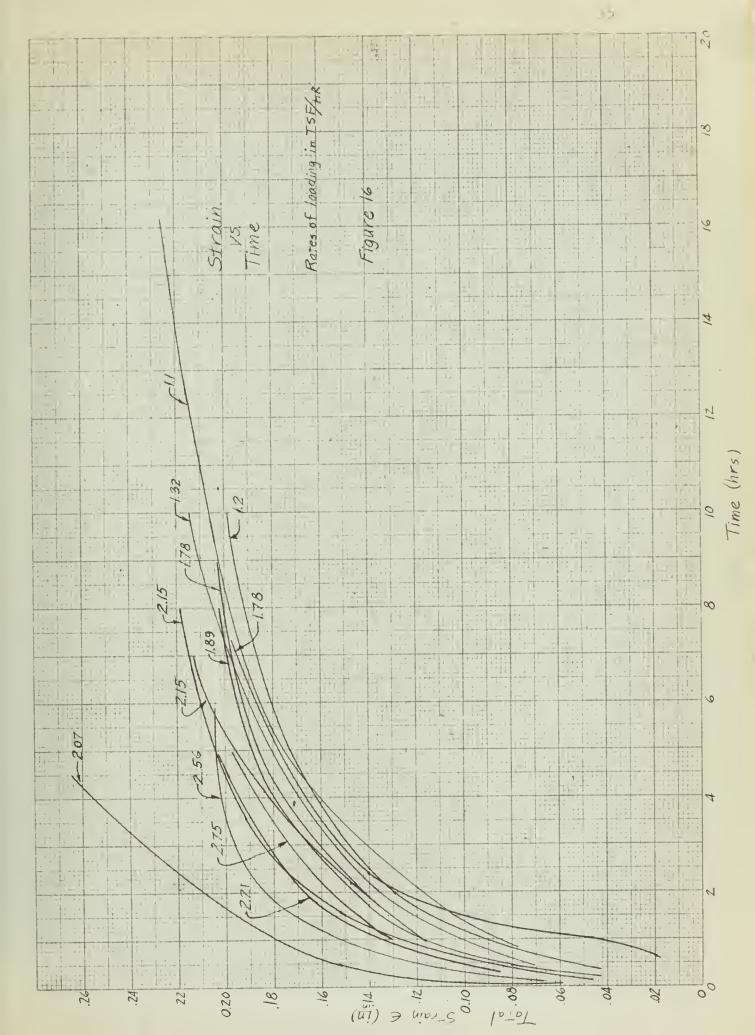
loadings it is seen that there is a definite trend toward smaller void ratio decrease with increase in load increment, although in each test the ultimate load was eight tons per square foot.

For the time-dependent (continuous-loading) tests, however, the results are not as conclusive. It is seen, though, that the more rapid loading rates are tending to approach an assymptote more rapidly and at a smaller void ratio change than the less rapid loading rates.

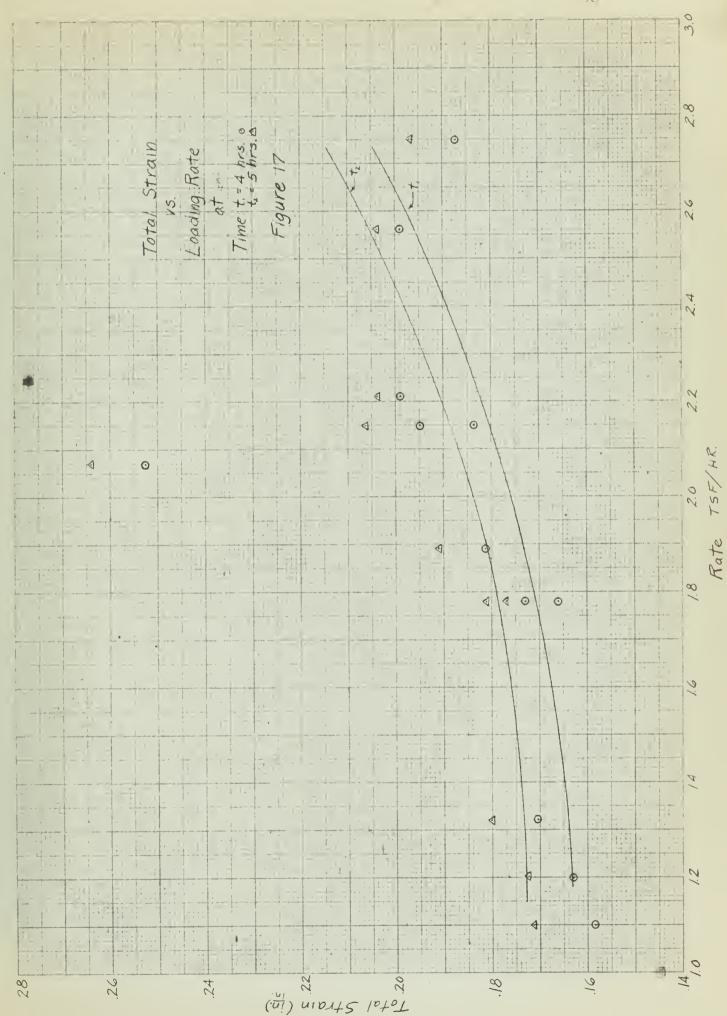
Figures 16 and 18 depict the relationship of total strain with time for different loading conditions. As can be gathered from the void ratio plot (Figures 14 and 15), the total deformation is shown to be greater for more rapid rates of loading. This is again illustrated on the plot for the static test where considerably greater total strains were experienced for large incremental test runs than for small incremental tests. The so-called usual test, which was used as a pilot study, has increments of loading between those of the other two series; however, in spite of the fact that these usual tests were subject to more error since technique was not fully developed at that early stage of testing, the plot of total strain falls between the two extremes of small increment and large increment.

This effect is further illustrated by Figure 17 which is a plot of total strain versus rate-of-loading at a particular time during testing, in this case 4 hours.

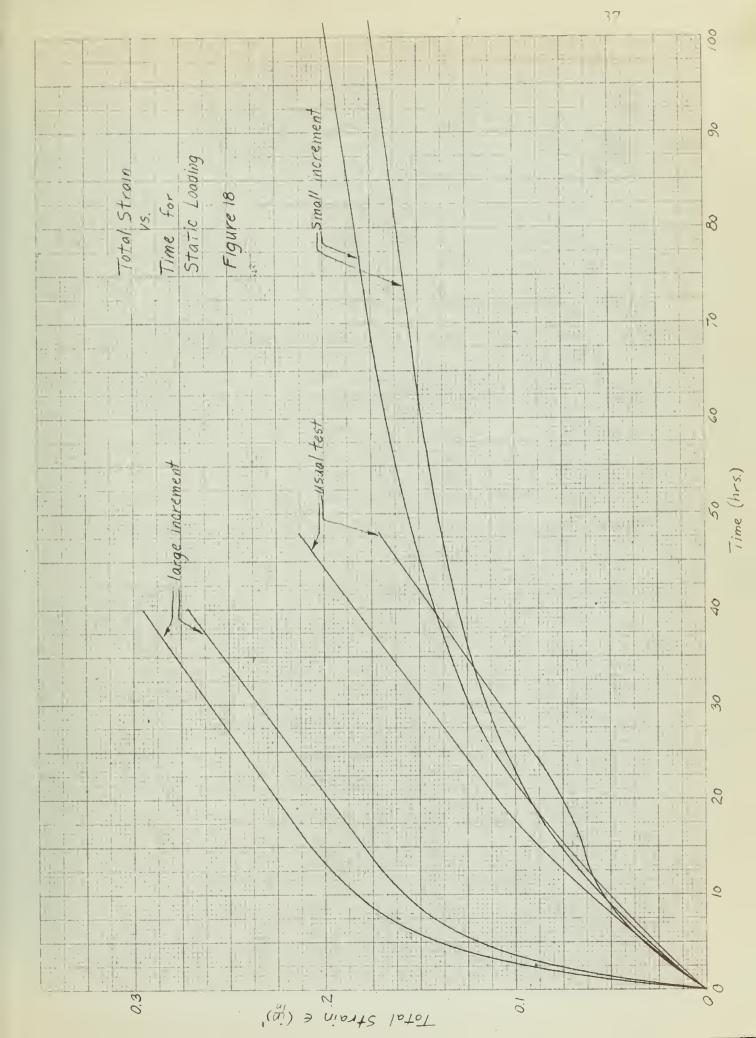














Although there is some scattering of points, the plotted curve seems to indicate that total strain increases at an ever-increasing amount as rate of loading increases.

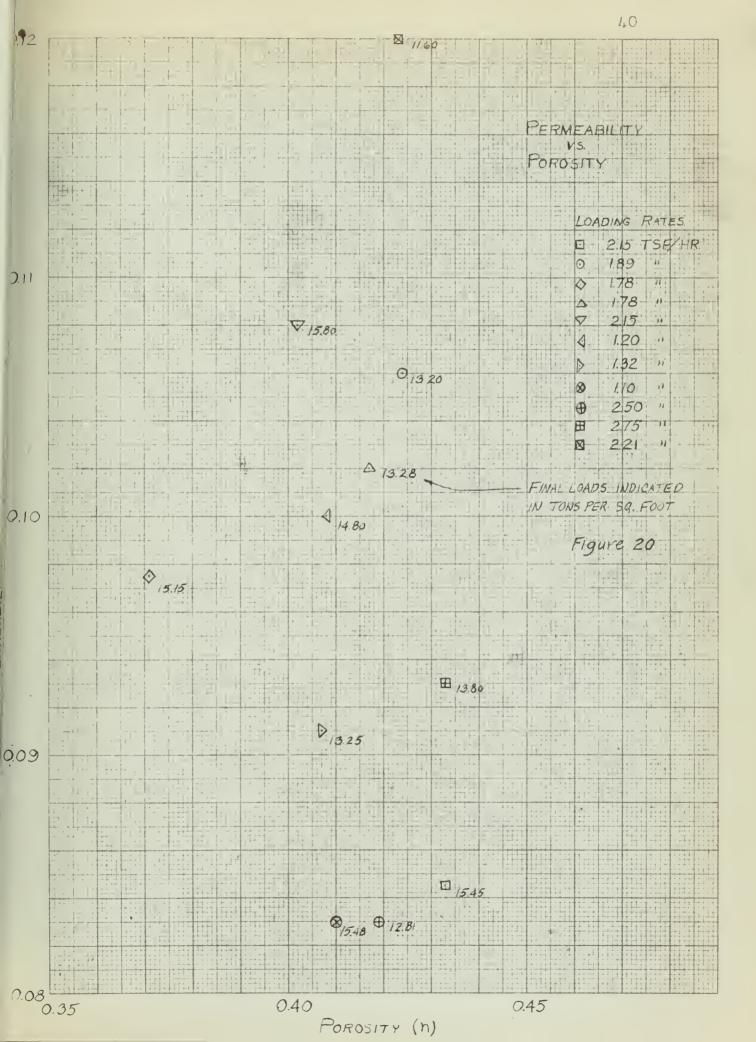
Figures 19 and 20 are graphical representations of permeability versus porosity for various loading conditions. Although a total of thirteen test runs were accomplished with the continuous loading device, no definite relationship between permeability and porosity could be discovered. Since the only true permeability value was the one measured at the conclusion of loading, only one value could be plotted for each run. No two values were the same, even when the same rate of loading was applied. It must be noted, however, that the total spread between permeability values was from .083 cm/sec x 10<sup>-6</sup> to 0.12 cm/sec x 10<sup>-6</sup> while the loading rates varied from 1.1 TSF/HR to 2.75 TSF/HR and the final load values varied from 11.60 TSF to 15.80 TSF.

For the static tests, however, a continuous curve could be plotted, since values for permeability were measured at the equilibrium point after every load increment. The curves plotted essentially parallel, and the permeability values for the large increment test runs were consistently larger than the values for the small increment test runs. Again, the usual test values lay between these two extremes.

A plot of permeability-versus-time for these same static tests (Figure 21) seems to substantiate the above results since there is a tendency for permeability to be









greater for the large incremental test than for the small incremental test with values for the usual test falling between these two extremes.



### PART VI.

#### DISCUSSION

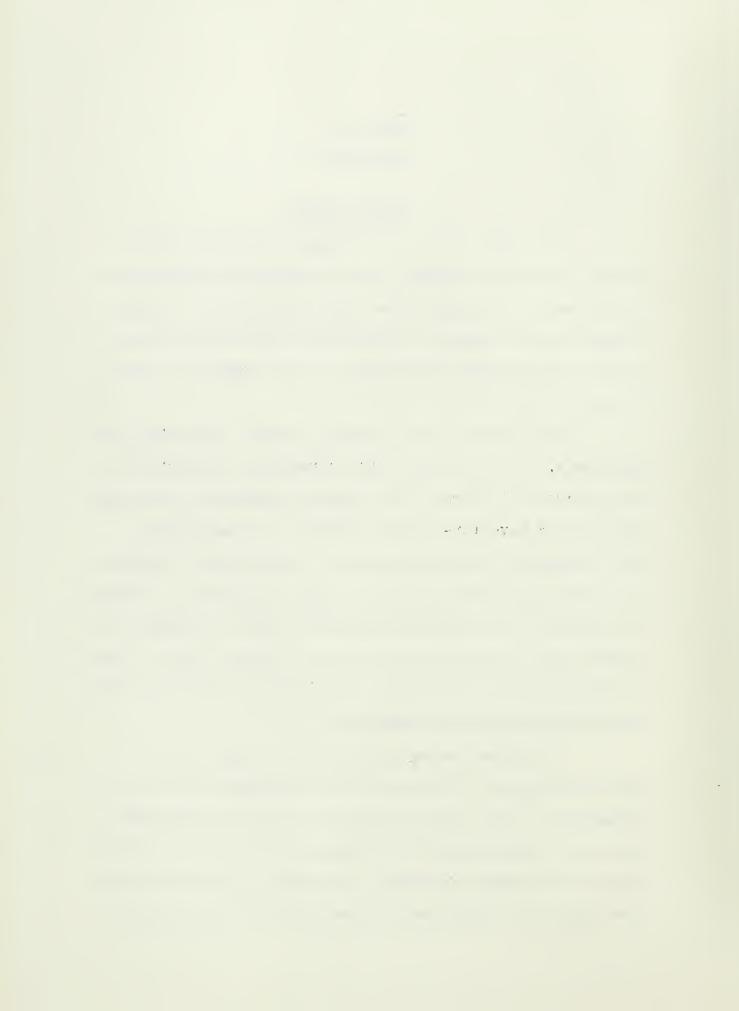
# A. Static Tests

Six runs, two each of large increment, small increment and usual increment, were conducted in the series of static tests. Although these tests constituted a slight change from the standard consolidation tests, the course of testing was nonetheless followed at the suggestion of Marron (4).

The results of the tests are both interesting and applicable. The fact that total strain and resultant void ratio decrease is larger for a large incremental load application could have far-reaching effects in construction.

Most foundation designs are based on an allowable differential settlement. The fact that large increments of loading cause greater total consolidation than small increments of loading, even though the final total loads are equal, leads to the possibility of greater differential settlement under these large incremental conditions.

This phenomenon can probably be explained by hypothesizing that the smaller load increments cause less disturbance to the structure of the clay and concurrently allow more opportunity for the natural structure to develop than do the large increments. Therefore, it is conceivable that less total strain would take place if the structural

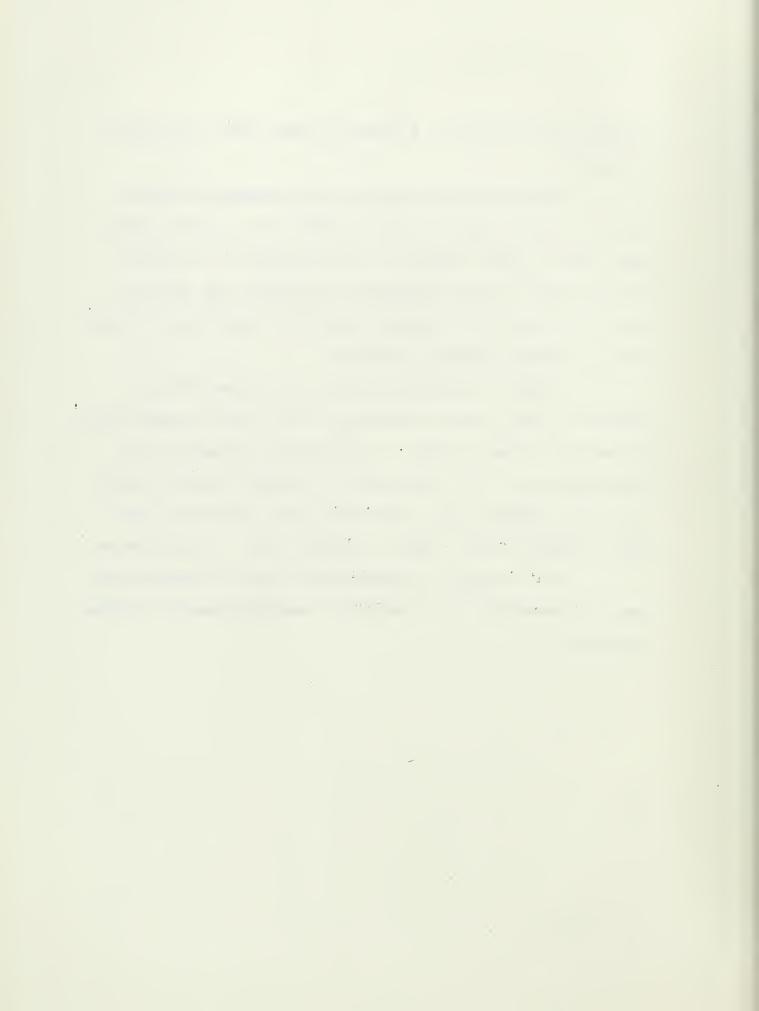


strength had built up to a greater extend under the smaller increments.

There are limitations to this concept, however, and far from the least of these is the fact that the study dealt with an ideal material, pure kaolinite. Of course, for the sake of study homogeneity simplifies the interpretation of results, but whether any field conditions approach this is another question entirely.

Figure 19 illustrates that the permeability is greater at time t and at porosity n for large increment than for small increment tests. It would seem, from the foregoing discussion, that the smaller increments would produce the large permeabilities since the total strain and void ratio change is less. Thus a question and a conflict arise.

It is readily seen that this line of testing presents interesting possibilities and certainly merits further research.



## B. Time-Dependent Loading Tests

Thirteen so-called continuous loading tests were conducted as a refinement of the standard static testing. Previous work by Marron (4) had been hampered by the lack of a dependent variable loading device. The electric motoragear train-belt and pulley arrangement was a great improvement over his bubbler but is not the final answer. The valve stem of the air pressure regulator valve became extremely difficult to turn as the pressure was increased. Therefore, at relatively high pressures (40 psi) slippage of the belt on the pulleys occurred. As a result, pure timedependent loading was not always obtained and the final pressures were not always as large as desired. A gear drive instead of the belt and pulley drive would solve this problem. Nevertheless, the tests as a whole proved quite satisfactory.

These tests seem to verify the results of the static tests in that the more rapid loading rates produced the greatest total strains and void ratio changes.

No such verification can be gathered from the plot of permeability versus porosity (Figure 19). The scattering of values is too random to permit the formulation of a general relationship. Perhaps if more time had been allowed to elapse after the discontinuation of additional loading before the reading of permeabilities, a relationship could be developed. Since there is such a small spread relatively, however, (from .083 to .12 cm/sec x  $10^{-6}$ ) a general



statement can be made. From the results of this series of tests there is relatively little effect upon permeability of rate of time-dependent loading.



# C. General

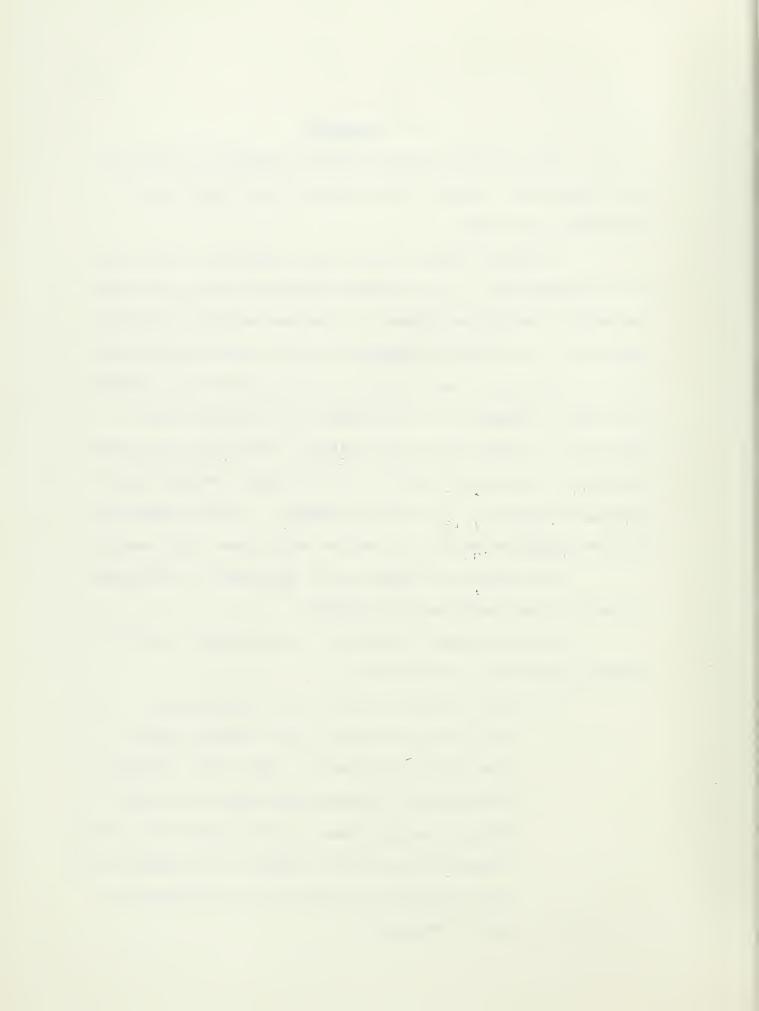
The results of these tests, although to some extent conclusive, bring to the author's mind many ideas for furthering the study.

A direct result of the time limitation is the factor of human error. In a research problem such as this the innumerable variables present in the raw material, in this case soil, are further compounded by the variation in technique of testing. Even though the soil samples are prepared with great diligence, no two samples are exactly alike. This alone accounts, more than likely, for most of the error in the test results. The plot of void ratio versus log of pressure (Figure 13) is a prime example. If the samples had all been prepared equally, the plot would have been one line.

Of course, the human error decreases as technique is improved and experience is gained.

If any further testing is contemplated, the following suggestions are offered:

(1) The loading block of the consolidometer should be attached to the loading beam of the loading apparatus. This will eliminate much of the initial disturbance and early false readings caused by the relatively heavy weight of the block resting on the sample and yet not being included in the measured applied pressure.



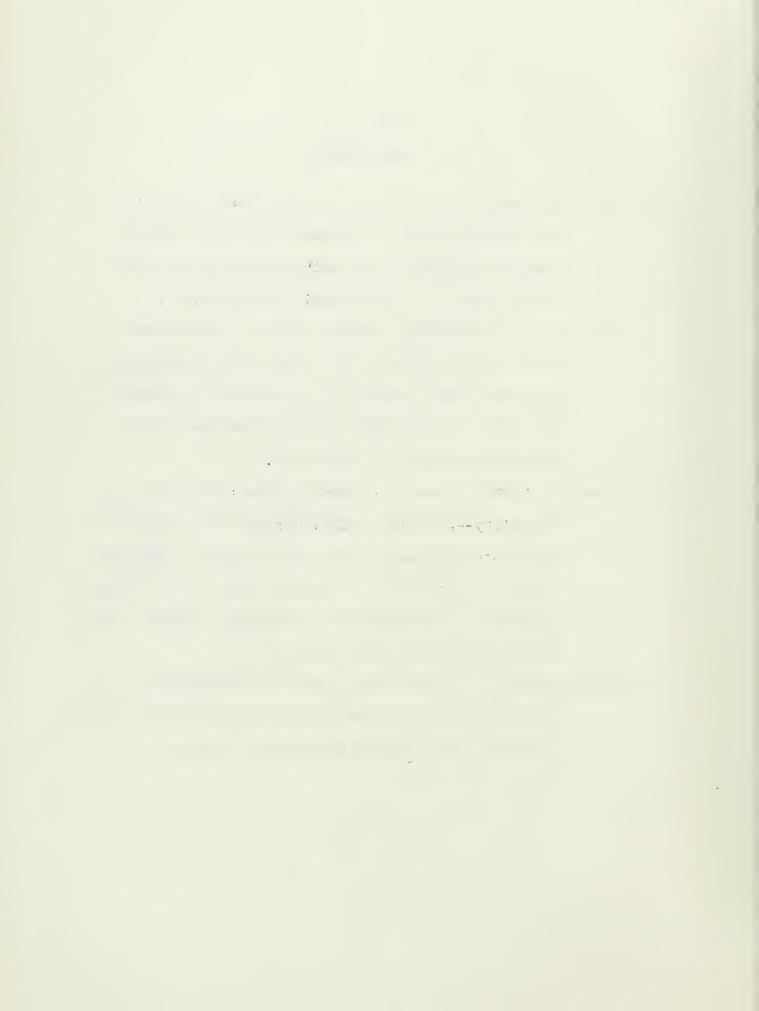
- (2) A gear train should be fabricated to replace the belt and pulley drive. This will insure constant time-dependent loading.
- (3) The testing program should include series of tests at various rates of loading. At each rate of loading tests should be run from O-1 TSF, O-2 TSF, O-3 TSF, up to O-16 TSF. When each of these predetermined loads are reached, permeability readings should be taken after a predetermined waiting period to allow equilibrium to take place.
- (4) An automatic recording device (i.e., photographic) should be utilized especially during the initial half hour of testing. The process takes place too rapidly to permit accurate readings by eye. This record should include the manometer readings during the initial stages when water is forced back into the tube.



### PART VII.

#### CONCLUSIONS

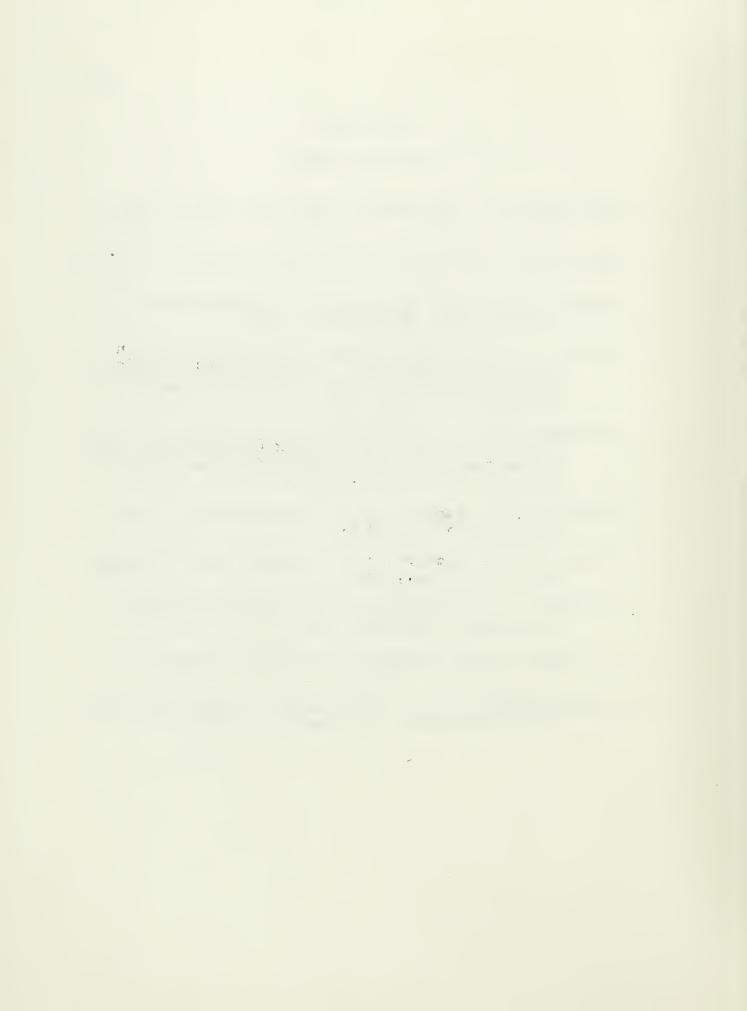
- 1. The utilization of an electric motor--gear train--belt and pulley device in conjunction with a Conbel loading apparatus is feasible and provides very good control in consolidation experiments.
- 2. There is a relationship between rate of loading and total consolidation. The larger the increment or the more rapid the rate of loading, the greater the total consolidation and the greater the resultant decrease in void ratio.
- 3. The fact that increment of loading does affect the permeability--porosity relationship is an indication that rate of loading does play a part. Although this same plot for the various rates of continuous loadings was inconclusive, certainly further study along this line is warranted.
- 4. The assumptions by Schiffman (5) that permeability is not constant under varying loading conditions during the consolidation process are valid.



#### PART VIII.

#### LITERATURE CITED

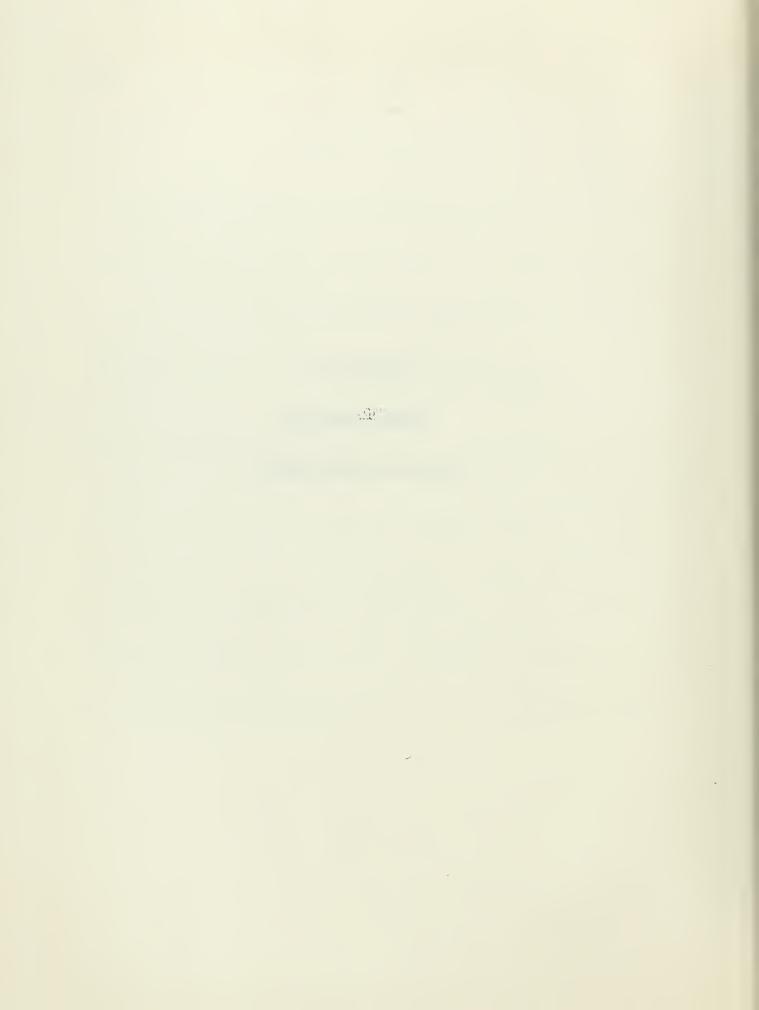
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APPENDIX A

Sample Raw Data

Static Loading Tests



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		30		0209	1220	8916.	4498	_	1.105	.525			
		40		6050	0521.	9/38	4.484		8601	.223			
		200		6070	1270	.9118-	4.473		1.093	.522			
	0907	ž _		0609	1290		4.463		1.088	125			
		1/2		6145	1345	9043	4.436		1.076	518			
	8060	7		6185	1385	.9003	4.417		1.067	5/6			
	6060	W		7050	1450	.8938	4.385		1.352	5/3			
	0160	4		7100	00,0/		4.360		1040	510			_
	1160	7		7/30		. 8858	4.346		1.034	508			
	9160	10		8048	1648	8840	4.337		1.029	.507			
	2260	02		8/37	1737	6288	4.332		1.027	506			
	9860	30		6130	.1790	8776	4.306		1.015	.504			
	900/	09		9033	1833		1284		1.005	105.	-		
	90//	02/		9053	1853	.8713	4.275		1.000	.500			
	1300	942		9069	1869	8697	4.267		766.	ó6+·			
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emen.	17t.	.8495	.8416		8368	8358	8349	8340	.8318	8306	6678.	2628	8828	6178	8272	8268 4.056	2978	9578	8248	8243					
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+ Stat.	H.t. 10.	8207	8/18		8054	8035	3208	8012 :	7661	7.83		7972	7968		7956	7952	7949	7044	.7939	.7931					
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A9   Tost   Z487   Tost   S876   Z137   S14   449   L31   S0   S00   Z600   Tost   S876   Z137   S14   449   L31   S0   S001   Z600   Tost   S807   Tost   S807   Tost   Tost   S788   A41   95   S0   S0   S007   Z667   Tost   S788   Tost   A36   Tost   Tost   S788   Tost   A36   Tost   Tost   S789   Tost   Tost   Tost   S789   Tost   Tost   Tost   S789   Tost   Tost   Tost   Tost   S785   Tost   Tost	747 Tress Dial Diol Ht Vol. Vs. C=V-1 N=E Rerm. 49  0 Sec. 2 12087 .2487 .7901 3.876 2.137 .814 449 1.31  10   3000 .2600 .7768 3.821 788 .441 95  20   3041 .2641 .7747 3.807 789 .441 95  30   3067 .2667 .7721 3.788 .773 432 78  40   3083 .2683 .7705 3.788 769 435 77    Min.   13101 .2711 .7671 3.765 .760 432 .65  2   3117 .2717 .7671 3.763 .760 432 .65  4   13126 .2726 .7663 3.759 .760 .432 .67 02	747 Press Dial Diol Ht Vol. Vs C=V-1 N=E Rerm. 499  0 Sec. 2 17087 2487 7901 8.876 2.137 814 449 1.31  10   3003 2600 7708 8.821 788 .441 95  20   3041 2641 7747 3.807 788 .441 95  30   3067 2667 7721 3.807 773 .436 789  40   3083 2683 7705 8.780 769 .435 73  50   5094 2694 7694 8.775 766 .434 71	75   Ress   Dial   Dial   Ht   Wol.   Vs   C=1/4 - 1 N=1/4   Gage   Cc    756   2   12087   2487   7901   3.876   2.137   814   449   1.31    750   3000   2600   7788   3.821   788   441   95    750   3067   2667   7721   3.788   773   435   78    750   13083   2683   7705   3.786   769   435   73    750   13083   2683   7705   3.780   769   435   73    750   13083   2694   3.775   765   434   71    751   2713   2715   3.765   3.765   432   65    751   2715   2766   3.761   760   432   65    750   4312   2772   7661   3.763   760   432   65    750   4312   2772   7661   3.763   760   432   69    750   7312   2772   7661   3.753   760   432   69    750   750   750   760   3.755   760   750   750    750   750   750   760   750   750    750   750   750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750    750   750   750   750    750   750    750	75   Press   Dial   Diol   Ht   Vol.   Vs.   Press   Press   Dial   Diol   Ht   Vol.   Vs.   Press   Press   Dial   Diol   Ht   Vol.   Press   Press   Dial   Diol   Ht   Vol.   Press   Press   Dial   Diol   Press   Press   Press   Dial   Diol   Press   Press   Dial   Diol   Press   Dial   Diol   Press   Diol   Diol	AT         Press         Dial         Dial         HH         Vol.         I/s         C=L-1         N=E-E         Perm         A9           10         75F         10         10         14         Vol.         15         C=L-1         N=E-E         Perm         A9           10         55c         12087         2487         7901         3.876         2.137         314         449         131           20         13000         2600         7788         3.821         788         441         95           20         1304         2641         7747         3.807         789         441         95           30         1304         2641         7747         3.807         789         441         95           40         13083         2.647         7721         3.788         779         436         78           40         13083         2.647         3.765         3.765         434         71           1/2         1313         2.713         7.675         3.765         432         67         02           10         13126         2.726         7.663         3.759         432         69	AT         Press         Did         Ht         Vol.         Vs.         C-V-1         N=E         Perm.         Agg           0 Sec.         2         12087         24887         7901         3.876         2.137         914         449         1.31           10         5         1304         2600         7728         3.821         788         441         95           20         1304         2641         7747         3.807         773         441         95           30         13067         2660         7768         3.821         778         441         95           30         13067         2667         7721         3.788         779         432         78           40         13083         2693         7705         3.789         769         434         71           50         180         2701         7694         3.775         769         434         71           1/2         181         2713         7674         3.763         769         435         67         02           2         1317         2712         7648         3.753         764         3.753         764         3.754	75   Perss   Dial   Diol   Ht   Vol.   Vs   Col.   In = Col.   Perm   Age   Ast   As	7.7me	75	0808 0 56: 2   12087   1740   3876   2.137   814   449   331   330   3600   3600   3788   3821   2.137   814   449   331   330   3600   2600   7788   3821   2.137   814   449   331   330   3600   2600   7788   3821   773   3867   788   3441   95   360   3600   2600   7788   3821   773   3788   441   95   360	7.1me	7.7me	0808 0 Sec. 2   12087   2487   7901   3872   2137   814   449   1.31	7. Time



			Larg	e Inci	Large Increment	Stat	Static Test				27 Mar. 59	1.59	
	Time	47	Press TSF	Dial	Dial in.	14		1/2	1-7-0	n= 10	Perm		Sec. 10-6
	1010	O sec	4	13187	1812	7601	3.729 2.	2.137	745	427	3.95		
		10		14125	5262		3.661		7/3	416			
		20		14165	\	7423	3.642		704	4/3			
		30		14190	9662.	7398	3.629			1411	3.30		
		40	+	15000	3000	7388	3.625	_		9/0			
		20,5		60051	3009	7379	3.620	•		409			
	1101	/ min.		15013	.3013	7375	3618	•	.693	409	3.23		
				15061	0208		3.615		269	409	3.22		
	7015			15025	3025	7363	3612		169:	.408	3.22		
	1013			57051	3029	7359	3.610		683	.408	3.23	10	.880
	10/4			15032	.3032	7355	3.608		.688	407	3.24	10.	880
	1015			,5034		7353	3.607	•	688		3.25	10	880
	0201			15040	.3040	7347	3.604	•	686		3.32	10.	.123
	1030	_		15045	3045	7342	3.602	•	685.	.406	3.48	9/	141
	1040	8		15040	3049	7338	3.600	•	685	406	3.64	9/	141.
	1110			15054	3354	7833	3.598	•	684	.406	4.17	50	1551.
	0/2/			15063	.3365	7327	3.595		683	.400	5.25	1.08	158
204,11cd t. 0.00	1410	240		15065	3565	7322	3.592		(8)	405	7.30	2.05	151.
Final.	1645		<b>∞</b>	15070	3010	.73/7	3.590	_ ·	680	:405	2.50	2.50	.142
#	1600										2.70	.70	.175
Can 35 /3/337	1/02							_			290	02	. 175
1000 135.461/												•	
W= 32.8 %													
2 /0/						•							

# SAMPLE CALCULATIONS

DQ = flow of water (c.c) during time t .

t = time (secons)

L = average length of sample over time + (in.)

H = head of permeameter (116.6 cm)

A = area of sample (4.906 in?)

K = coefficient of permeability (cm/sec. 10-6)

$$K = \frac{\Delta Q}{t} \times \frac{L \cdot 2.54}{1166 \cdot 4906 \cdot (254)^2} = 000688 \times \frac{\Delta Q \cdot L}{t}$$

$$= .688 \times .0^{-3} \times \frac{\Delta Q \cdot L}{t} \quad cm. / sec.$$



# APPENDIX B

Sample Raw Data

Time-Dependent Loading Tests

6	× /20	24000 6 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
6 Feb 59	100 CM	0 1 C 00 10 0 1 C 0 00 10 00 00 10 00 00 10 00 00 10 00 0
169		
	e Gage	
	0/+	22 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
	C=2-1	25.27 25
	12	2.186
1 # +·	10%	44444444444444444444444444444444444444
ng Test	4	9565/ 9665/ 96
Loading	Dial	28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 2
Snorti		4 5 5 6 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
Cont.	Press TSF	
	(-) Corr.	00-nu/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v/v
	Press.	000:
	Time	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
	IK	1 54 E
	15 TS1	13.0658 23.9983 24.2391 42.7% 13.37% 13.37% 3.345 m 3.345 m
	Rate: 2.15 TSFAR	See
	Ra	1101.27



c Gage CC Cm 10							.043	078	000	050	047	254	274	173	184	272	13	177	173	274	172	800	77.0	021	100	100	
Cage CC	`									_			<u> </u>	, 3				0			<u> </u>		•	•		·	
10	,						70.	10	0.	00	0.7	080	? :		69	1/8	10/	75	23	20	36	75	, ,	55	5 5	>	
0.1						0	0 4	07	42	43	47	53	.6.	72	000	1.52	1.70	2.45	3.70	5.43	4.79	4.71	5,62	5.72	5.82	5.92	
7: 11	533	.529	.522	110.	2005																					.407	
C= 1/2-1	124	1.121	1.031	1.0.1	0.00.	.998	940	496	. 940	626	.918	900	. 201	000	020	136	1,80	748	07/	1/1/	080	687	685,	685	685	.685	
72	2.303				-									_										_		_	
in 3		4.884	4 8/5	4.771	4 650	4 602	4.585	4.523	4468	4 442	4.418	4.375	4.333	4.296	1.261	4.136	4.110	520.4	3.761	3.944	2 39,1	3 200	388/	3 881	3.890	3881	
is.	1.3065	9955	9815	9725	9478	9380	9345	9219	1016	4506	5006	. 891/	2888.	3/36	8685	8431	.8377	8200	.8074	3037	7100	29/9	7910	016	310	310	
Cial	3520	3410	3270	00/6	3108	2835	2800	2674	2952	2509	2460	7372	1822	1172.	07/2	1886	1832	1000	1529	1434	1284	1374	1365	1265	1365	. 1365	
Dial																										6/65	
75F	050	08	07	27:	67.	500	31	100	108	1,00	1.29	1.63	2.00	240	2.72	47%	541	7.2.2	10.07	10.75	11.30		31	22	13.25	13.25	
Corre																							2./	1.2	7.7	7.7	;
P51	$\omega_{j}\omega$	9.	6.		 v a	2.7	4:7	16	90.	4.3	4.7	5.8	6.9	80	97	15,2	17.3	24.3	1 10	324	35.1	408	4/2	41.0	41.0	41.0	7.7
Time	0908	2160	2160	0760	0931	0937	0941	0952	1004	1010	1017	1030	1045	1/00	11/2	172/	1300	1430	777	100/	16.53	6/8/	1917	7030	2040	2050	0017
=1.32 He.		66	. 13.0658	1.25.2785	,																inal Meas	Jan # 41		130 5	108 9952	W=318%	= 70
	132 HC. Time PSI Corr. 75F Dial in in 103 13 C= 15-1	10 Neas 0908 3 0 05 1712 3520 1365 4 938 2.303 1.144	=132 He 11me psi Corr 75F Dial in in 1/13 Cetical 10908 3 0 05 1712 3520 1365 4 938 2.303 1/144 1/15 3520 1365 4 916 2.303 1/144 1/15 366 0910 0 07 17075 3475 1.0020 4 916 1/155 1/155 66 0912 6 0.1 08 17010 3410 9955 4.884 1/121	10 Neas 0908 3 0 05 1712 3520 1365 4 938 2.303 1/44 0910 0910 0 07 17075 3475 1.0020 4 916 1.121 1.35 0 0910 0 0917 .3 0 0 07 17075 3470 9955 4.884 1.121 1.35 0911 0917 .3 0 0 0 1.20 1.3 0 1.3	10   Neas. 0908 3 0 05   1712   3520   1365 4 938 2.303   144   100   10	= 132 He 11me psi Cott 75F Dial 12, 12, 12, 13, 15 c= 15-1	10 Neas 192 He 1910 1910 1911 1911 1911 1911 1911 191	= \( 32 \) \( \text{He} \) \( \text{Vine} \) \(	= 132 Tre 11me psi Corr. 75F Dial 12 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	= \( 32 \) \( \text{He} \) \( \text{Vine} \) \(	= 132 #e. 11me psi Cott. 75F Dial 12 12 12 12 12 12 14 15 10020 12 12 14 14 15 10020 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	= 132 #e. 17me psi Corr 75F Dol 27 17 185 4 938 2.303 1/44  10000 3 0 0 7 17075 3475 1365 4 938 2.303 1/44  10000 3 0 0 7 17075 3475 1365 4 938 2.303 1/44  1000 0912 0 0 0 0 7 17075 3475 1365 4 938 2.303 1/44  1000 0912 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Neas   Neas   Neas   Not   N	Neas   Neas   Ogo   S   Oct   TSF   Dial   Neas   Ogo   Oso   Os	13.0 Tre. 1776 155 1712 1550 1715 1570 1715 1570 1715 1570 1715 1570 1715 1570 1715 1570 1715 1715	1000 80 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	= 132 He. 11me 751 Co.; 757 Vol 1 Co. 155 Vo	= 132 Tre. 1776	100   Needs   100   10	Near   Near	Near   Near	Near   Near	Neas   Neas		Neas   Neas	Neas   Neas	Near   Near









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